

# Planning for Animals in Disasters and Emergencies

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# AVMA Ownership & Demographics Sourcebook

- 58.3% of households own at least one pet
- Approx. 2 pets per household
- Animals in U.S. households
  - 62 million dogs
  - 69 million cats
  - 10 million birds
  - 5 million horses

# AVMA Statistics

“I consider my pet(s)...”

- 47% family members
- 51% pet, companion
- 2% property

**98% OF PEOPLE SURVEYED CONSIDER  
THEIR ANIMAL A COMPANION OR A FAMILY  
MEMBER!**

**American Veterinary Medical Association** U.S. Pet Ownership & Demographics Sourcebook. Am Vet Med Assoc. 2002

# Epidemiological Study

## Research

- 1991 Oakland Fires
- 1996 Weyauwega, WI train derailment
- 1997 Marysville, CA floods

## Results

- 5-10% households will NOT evacuate = 25% pet owners
- 50-70% will attempt to rescue later

Sebastian E. Heath, VetMB, Ph.D., Dipl. ACVIM, ACVPM

# What are the animal concerns in disasters?



1. Public safety
2. Public and animal health
3. Agrosecurity
4. Animal welfare
5. Service/police animals
6. Wildlife/environment



# PETS Act

- Pet Evacuation and Transportation Act of 2006
  - Stafford Act amendments
  - Requires state and local plans for household pets and service animals
    - Tied to EMPG funding agreements
  - Allows FEMA cost-sharing related to household pet and service animal response
  - Allows FEMA director to make contributions (preparedness).

# CPG 302

## CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE ANIMAL PLANNING

Effective planning and preparedness measures help ensure expedient response efforts. Successful planning efforts share the following common characteristics:

- Reduce unknowns but know you can't plan for everything
- Based on what is likely to happen and what people are likely to do
- Are based on facts, including behaviors, the number of pets and service animals, and required resources.
- Include public information and awareness programs
- Include training of responders
- Have been validated through exercise(s), a review process, a system analysis, or real world incident(s).

DRAFT – DO NOT CITE **For Official Use Only** DRAFT – DO NOT CITE

Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 302

### Incorporating Household Pets and Service Animals Considerations into Emergency Operations Plans

A Guide for State, Territorial, Tribal, and Local Governments

**DRAFT**

**March 2009**



**FEMA**

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PRE-DECISIONAL DOCUMENT – NOT FOR RELEASE TO THIRD PARTIES

# Other References




## Emergency Planning

Independent Study 235.a



May 2010



FEMA

**FEMA**

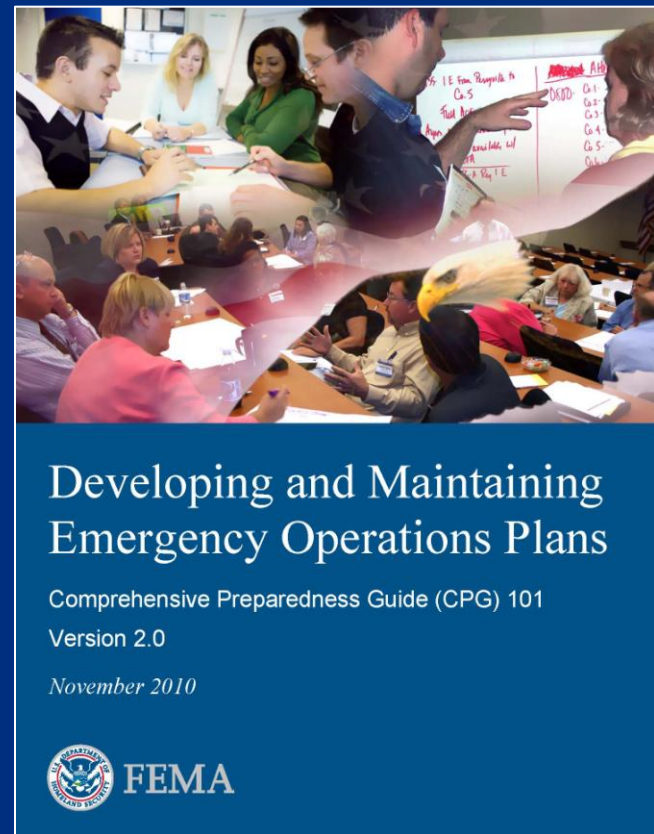
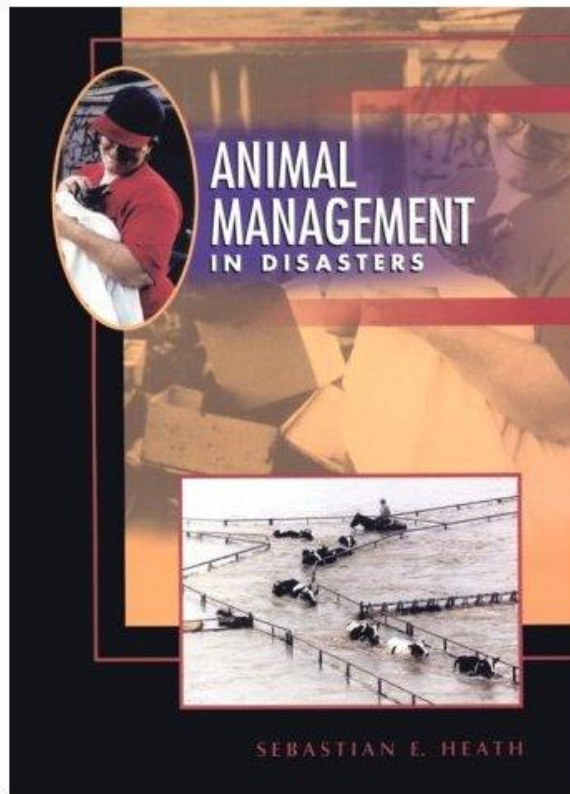
Welcome to **IS-10.a**  
**Animals in Disasters:**  
**Awareness and Preparedness**



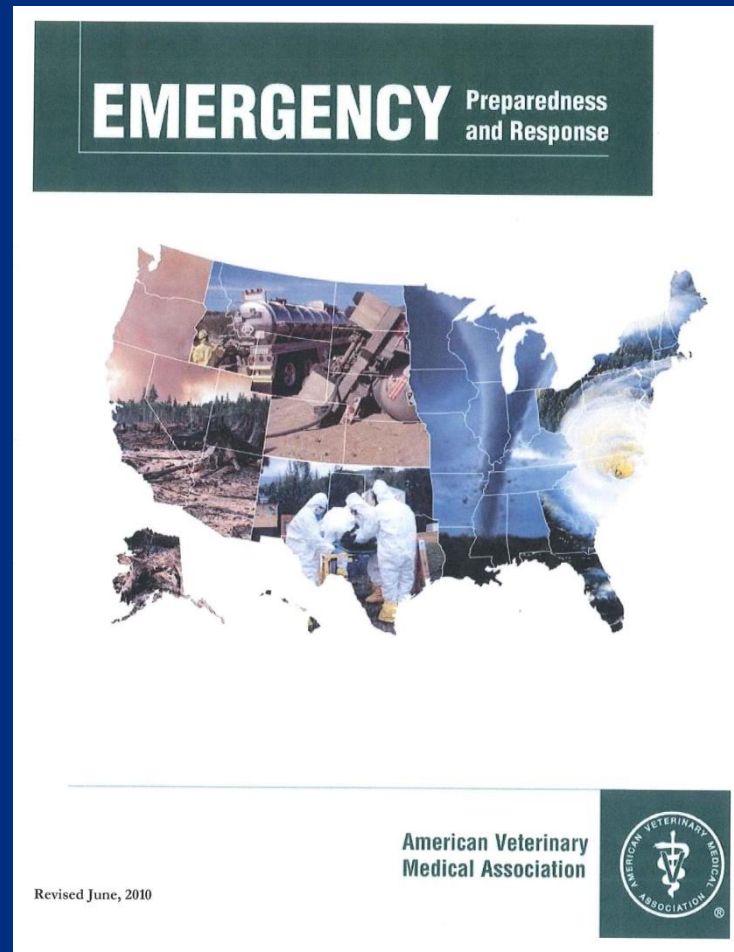
Begin the Training



# More References



# Last Reference for Today



# Emergency Planning

- Why Plan?
- Don't reinvent the wheel
  - Use templates
  - Steal other plans including the State's
- IS – 235 Emergency Planning course
  - Geared toward Emergency Managers
- Must be consistent with NIMS and ICS
- Know your responsibilities and authorities
- A collaborative effort
- Is not a one-time event

# Planning Levels



# Steps in the Emergency Planning Process

1. Hazard Analysis
2. Writing the Plan
3. Testing the Plan
4. Plan maintenance and revision



# The Planning Team

- Senior elected officials
- Other agency heads
- Mutual aid partners
- Voluntary organization leaders
- Industry representatives
- State agency representatives



# Getting the Team Together

- Notify and invite
- Give information on the activity and expectations
- Have senior official sign the invitation
- Be flexible with team members

# An Effective Planning Team

- A common goal (development of the plan)
- A leader who provides direction and guidance
- Open communication
- Constructive conflict resolution
- Mutual trust
- Respect for each individual and his or her contributions
- Think about your role in the planning process—how you fit in.



# Hazard Analysis

Hazard analysis determines:

- What can occur.
- How often it is likely to occur.
- The damage it is likely to cause.
- How it is likely to affect the community.
- How vulnerable the community is to the hazard.

The steps in the hazard analysis process are:

1. Identify hazards.
2. Profile each hazard.
3. Develop a community profile.
4. Determine vulnerability.
5. Create and apply scenarios.

# Step 1: Identifying Hazards

- History
  - Weather
  - Floods
- Hazardous materials facilities or routes
- Local development activities
- Transportation routes



**Operation Pet Rescue: Weyauwega 1996**

# Step 2: Profiling Hazards

Hazard profiles should address each hazard's:

- Magnitude
- Duration
- Seasonal pattern
- Speed of onset
- The availability of warnings will also become a crucial part of the hazard profile.



# The Remaining Process Steps

3. Develop a community profile - combines hazard-specific information with a profile of your community to determine the community's vulnerability to the hazard (or risk of damage from the hazard)
4. Determine vulnerability – combines hazard and community profiles with risk
5. Create and apply scenarios - develop realistic scenarios for the top-ranked hazards (or those that rank above a specified threshold) that lay out the hazard's development into an emergency

# Your Community's Plan

- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) – all hazards plan
  - Basic Plan
    - Gives an overview of the community's emergency response organization and policies
    - Provides a general understanding of the community's approach to emergency response for all involved agencies and organizations
  - Annex - how the community will carry out a broad function in any emergency, such as warning or resource management
    - May include a health and medical annex
    - May include a mass care annex
  - Appendix - a supplement to an annex that adds information about how to carry out the function in the face of a specific hazard
    - May address specific health hazards

## 2 Techniques for Writing a Plan

- Gather inputs such as existing plans and policies, make planning assumptions, and develop a concept of operation for a response
  - Needs to be briefed and approved by decision-makers
  - May take some time to get through all the hoops
- Gather the decision-makers, expose them to a realistic scenario and other existing plans and policy, and capture their decisions as they are made to capture their intent and your expected actions
  - May be a quicker method
  - Will need to get revised as decision-makers have time to reflect on actions

# Testing the Plan

- Great plans sitting on a shelf do no one any good
- Take it for test drive
- Exercises, drills and other training events
- Actual events
- Capture lessons-learned during the response

# Plan Maintenance and Revision

- Learn from your lessons-learned
- Review, revise and revamp
- It's not just your plan that may need revision but your resource needs as well



# Mission essential tasks:

## Animal Response

1. Animal Control
2. Evacuation
3. Transportation
  - Animals/materials
4. Animal search and rescue
  - Technical animal rescue
5. Sheltering
  - Existing facilities
  - Temporary
  - Co-located
  - Service animals
6. Animal feeding/water
7. Animal decontamination
8. Pet-owner reunion
9. Rapid need assessment
10. Mortality mgmt
11. Zoonotic disease
12. Wildlife Management
13. Veterinary care
  - Triage/clinical care
  - Biological risk management
  - Public health support

# Animal Issues in Disasters

- Evacuation failures
- Re-entry attempts
- Large animals
- Roadways
- Transportation
- Relocation/ care
- Heat Stroke in truck beds during long waits on highways

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